reference when the model of a hexagon wrench works the model 32B, and the standard part library 32 can store information of the reference position 32B' (reference position information) together with model data and the aforementioned attribute information of the model 32B of a screw.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please REPLACE and ADD to the claims in accordance with the following:

5.   (ONCE AMENDED) A simulation apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an interference checking section for checking interference of the working means model while said working simulation execution section executes a simulation of the standard part models working with the working means model.

24.   (NEW) An apparatus for simulating model manipulation, comprising:

a main model comprised of a manipulatable component model;

a manipulator model, separate from the main model, capable of virtually manipulating the manipulatable component model according to manipulation requirements of the manipulator model;

arrangement information describing an arrangement of the manipulation model when manipulating the component model; and

a processing unit determining whether the arranged manipulation model can virtually manipulate the component model by comparing the arrangement information and manipulation requirements of the manipulation model to the main model.

25.   (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the processing unit also determines whether the manipulation model can be virtually moved to its arrangement without interference between the moving manipulation model and the main model.

26.   (NEW) The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein orientation information is associated with the component model, and determining whether the manipulation model can be virtually moved to its arrangement further comprises determining whether the manipulation model can approach the component model according to the orientation information, without interference from the main model.